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Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 IO-14 ACDA-19 PC-10 /160 R

DRAFTED BY USOAS:TETAYLOR/ATP
APPROVED BY ARA - AMBASSADOR BOWDLER
USOAS - AMBASSADOR MAILLIARD
USOAS - JOHN W. FORD
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R 101955Z SEP 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS
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XMT AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OAS, PFOR
SUBJECT: OAS SECRETARY GENERAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN
REF: A) STATE 161463; B) LIMA 7454 (NOTAL)

1. THE CANDIDACY OF FOREIGN MINISTER GOMEZ BERGES OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC HAS SHARPLY CHANGED THE OUTLOOK OF THE ELECTION OF A NEW OAS SECRETARY GENERAL NEXT APRIL. SAPENA PASTOR'S CANDIDACY HAS SUFFERED A SERIOUS, PERHAPS FATAL SET BACK. IT IS FAR TOO EARLY TO MAKE ANY PREDICTIONS, BUT IF PERU PRESENTS THE CANDIDACY OF FOREIGN MINISTRY SECRETARY GENERAL CARLOS GARCIA BEDOYA OR IF ANOTHER STRONG CANDIDATE EMERGES, THERE IS A GOOD CHANCE THAT NO CANDIDATE WILL GET THE 12 VOTES NECESSARY FOR ELECTION ON THE FIRST BALLOT.

2. THE FOLLOWING RUN-DOWN OF GOVERNMENT POSITIONS MUST BE
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CONSIDERED EXTREMELY TENTATIVE, AT BEST. EVEN IF THERE IS A QTE FIRM UNQTE COMMITMENT, A GOVERNMENT COULD CHANGE ITS

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MIND OR EVEN VOTE AGAINST ITS COMMITMENT IN THE SECRET BALLOT. NEVERTHELESS, OUR BEST INFORMATION SUGGESTS THE FOLLOWING PICTURE:

SAPENA PASTOR (9) - COMMITTED OR REASONABLY FIRM: ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, CHILE, EL SALVADOR, GUATEMALA, NICARAGUA, PARAGUAY, URUGUAY.

GOMEZ BERGES (8) - COMMITTED OR REASONABLY FIRM: COSTA RICA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, MEXICO, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO, VENEZUELA, PROBABLE: BARBADOS, HAITI, PANAMA.

GARCIA BEDOYA (2) - PROBABLE: ECUADOR, PERU.

UNKNOWN OR UNDECIDED: (4) - COLOMBIA, HONDURAS, JAMAICA, UNITED STATES.

3. THE FOREGOING INFORMATION IS BEING FURNISHED FOR THE BACKGROUND OF THE ADDRESSES. IT SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BE CONVEYED TO LOCAL OFFICIALS. ANY INFORMATION WHICH WOULD CORROBORATE, CONTRADICT OR SUPPLEMENT THIS TALLY WOULD BE APPRECIATED. KISSINGER

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